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the subject for the United States, Professor Henderson sets forth the fundamentals on which a sound insurance policy should rest. The problem of accidents is considered, but unfortunately the paucity of data makes a satisfactory discussion of trade life impossible. Our advancement is epitomized in the following sentence: "America has no system of industrial insurance, but a beginning has been made from various starting-points—local societies, trades-unions, fraternal societies, employers' initiative, private corporations, casualty companies, and municipalities." In subsequent discussion the mutual benefit associations organized in many mercantile and manufacturing establishments receive considerable attention and an entire chapter is devoted to the benefit features of the trade unions. The insurance features of fraternal societies are briefly stated and the plans of certain corporations and railway companies are given with considerable detail. The interesting movement in favor of pensions for public school teachers calls for a brief outline as well as our national and state pension system.

The author gives some attention to preventive work and effectively analyzes the subject of employers' liability. Additional subjects included are: factory inspection, legislation against accidents and disease, against long hours, and laws protecting women and children. The book contains a number of valuable appendices, these consisting largely of rules and agreements of various benefit associations. An English book on this important subject is timely and for the present this volume supplies the deficiency

GEORGE B. MANGOLD.

*St. Louis, Mo.*

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**Key, Ellen.** *The Century of the Child.* Pp. 339. Price, \$1.50. New York: Putnam's Sons, 1909.

In this book the author discusses a topic of vital importance to our development as a nation. The rights of the child have too long been unrecognized, the right to choose his parents, to have a home, to secure the proper kind of education. Not only the duty of all parents to so order their lives that their offspring may be of the highest possible type is excellently brought out by Miss Key, but also the special duty of the mother to the unborn race. She is correct in saying that the participation by women in most unskilled trades unfits them for the duties of motherhood, but she rather overlooks the fact that the exchange by an ever-increasing number of our more highly-educated women of their former unskilled domestic tasks, for skilled, extra-domestic occupations may not only not injure them physically, but vastly improve their mental and moral capacity for child training.

The right of the child to expand freely rather than be molded by our present repressive education, and his right to a real home in which to expand are also further developed. In conclusion, Miss Key's program for an ideal

education, though acknowledged as a "mere dream," is an interesting forecast of the education of the future.

NELLIE MARGUERITE SEEDS NEARING.

*Philadelphia.*

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**Kuropatkin, A. N.** *The Russian Army and the Japanese War.* Translated by A. B. Lindsay. 2 vols. Pp. 657. Price, \$7.00. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1909.

The memoirs of a man who had the courage to assume as his own the responsibility for the Mukden disaster could not be tame commentaries. Kuropatkin is the general who, in spite of failure, came out of the Japanese War with the highest esteem of the Russian people and of military men the world over. His criticism of the Russian situation, therefore, deserves especial consideration. The two volumes here presented are chiefly a translation of the fourth volume of a large work which was at once suppressed on its publication in Russia.

The first volume points out what the foreign policy of Russia is and should be. An historical review of the growth of Russia shows that her chief interest before the war should have been to protect the German-Austrian frontier. Every reason was present for avoiding a conflict in Asia. Money, men, public opinion and means of communication, none were ready for the struggle. The War office was determined on peace in the East as early as 1898. It was difficult to follow this plan because of the increase of Russia's interest in the Far East due to the activities in that section carried on under the administration of Witte. Finally Japan was able to bring on a conflict through brusque diplomacy aided by the stubbornness of Alexeieff. Evidence is given to show that the break was hastened through the scheme of a promoter, Bezobrazoff, who interested a group of the nobility, including the King, in the Yalu Timber Company operating in Korea. Millions of roubles are said to have been invested in the enterprise. This view behind the scenes is supposed to be one of the reasons why the book was suppressed in Russia.

The disadvantages under which Russia labored in the war are reviewed. They include civil dissensions, unpreparedness, the weakness of the Siberian Railway, the failure of the cavalry, the failure of water communication and most important the fact that the war was unpopular. In spite of all this the author asserts that the defeat could have been turned into victory and that Russia was at no time in so favorable a position as at the making of peace. The railway had been made efficient, there were plenty of arms, an abundance of supplies and a remarkable improvement in *morale*. Japan, on the other hand, was weakening under the strain. Old men were found among the prisoners, her credit would not allow further borrowing and public opinion was beginning to turn against the war. Peace under such a condition is only a truce.

The second volume details the organization of the Russian War office with suggestions for improvement of the army in personnel and arms. One